

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 SAM-01

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-10 OPR-02 A-01 SY-05

OC-05 CCO-00 /077 W

----- 016441

O R 091300Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3716

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT SPLIT

REF: LISBON 4519

SUMMARY: ANTUNES DOCUMENT IS PICKING UP SUPPORT FROM MILITARY UNITS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. PRESIDENT IS QUOTED AS SAYING HE AGREES WITH ALMOST ALL ITS CONTENTS. IT APPEARS NOW THAT MODERATES INTEND TO ACHIEVE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FROM MILITARY UNITS AND DEMOCRATIC PARTIES AND FORCE PORTUGUESE STYLE NON-VIOLENT CONFRONTATION WITH GONCALVES AND HIS COMMUNIST FRIENDS. END SUMMARY.

1. DIVISIONS WITHIN THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL: WE

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UNDERSTAND THE CURRENT LINEUP IN THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

ON THE QUESTION OF THE ANTUNES DOCUMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

IN FAVOR (11)	UNDECIDED OR UNCOMMITTED (6)	AGAINST (11)
VASCO LOURENCO	COSTA GOMES	VASCO GONCALVES
CANTO E CASTRO	PINHEIRO AZEVEDO	CORVACHO
VICTOR CRESPO	MORAIS E SILVA	COSTA MARTINS
COSTA NEVES	OTELO CARVALHO	GRACA E CUNHA
MELO ANTUNES	FABIAO	GUERREIRO
CHARAIS	MARQUES JUNIOR	A. CONTREIRAS
PEZARAT CORREIA		RAMIRO CORREIA
SOUSA E CASTRO		JUDAS
PINHO FREIRE		L. MACEDO
PINTO SOARES		FERREIRA DE SOUSA

IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT SOME OF THE UNCOMMITTED VOTES WILL EVENTUALLY GO IN FAVOR OF THE ANTUNES DOCUMENT. NAVY CHIEF PINHEIRO AZEVEDO, FOR EXAMPLE, WHILE NOT SIGNING AUTHORIZED ITS CIRCULATION IN THE NAVY. SOARES CLAIMS OTELLO IS PRIVATELY IN FAVOR. THE BIG UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME IS WHETHER ROSA COUTINHO AND HIS FACTION WILL SWITCH FROM THEIR SUPPORT FOR GONCALVES. THE REST OF THE PRO-GONCALVES GROUP IS LIKELY TO STICK WITH HIM TO THE BITTER END.

2. LINING UP THE UNITS: WE HAVE BEEN GETTING PRELIMINARY AND FRAGMENTARY REPORTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY REGARDING THE EXTENT OF SUPPORT THE ANTUNES DOCUMENT HAS IN THE MILITARY UNITS. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL THE ORIGINAL SIGNERS ASKED MILITARY PERSONNEL TO MAKE THEIR POSITION KNOWN WITHIN TWO TO FOUR DAYS. CIRCULATION OF THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN IMPEDED, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE NATURAL DIFFICULTIES OF GETTING OFFICIAL VERSIONS AROUND THE COUNTRYSIDE AND IN PART BY THREATS FROM PRO-GONCALVES SUPPORTERS TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST PERSONNEL WHO CIRCULATE THE DOCUMENT. MILITARY LINEUP IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) NORTHERN MILITARY REGION VOTED IN BLOC TO SUPPORT THE DOCUMENT

(B) CENTRAL MILITARY REGION VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE DOCUMENT IN A PLENARY SESSION

(C) SOUTHERN MILITARY REGION HAS NOT YET ACTED DUE TO PROBLEMS IN GETTING THE DOCUMENT TO THE UNITS

(D) COMMANDO REGIMENT WILL HAVE PLENARY SESSION ON THE DOCUMENT ON MONDAY AND IS EXPECTED TO SUPPORT

(E) ENGINEERING REGIMENT ONE (LEFT DOMINATED) REFUSED TO

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CIRCULATE THE DOCUMENT

(F) MAFRA INFANTRY SCHOOL, CASCAIS ANTI AIRCRAFT UNIT, AND THE QUELUZ OPERATIONAL INFANTRY REGIMENT HAVE VOTED 70 TO 90 PERCENT IN FAVOR.

3. PRESIDENT'S POSITION: IN A "CLARIFICATION" ISSUED AUG. 8 AND CLEARED WITH THE PRESIDENT BEFOREHAND VASCO LOURENCO SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT, WHILE NOT

CONCURRING IN THE WAY THE DOCUMENT WAS ISSUED HAD NOT REPUDIATED IT--AS INCORRECTLY REPORTED IN THE CERTAIN PRESS ARTICLES. LOURENCO STATED THAT IN FACT THE PRESIDENT AGREED "WITH ALMOST THE ENTIRE DOCUMENT."

4. PARTY REACTIONS: BOTH THE PPD AND THE PS HAVE COME OUT WITH STRONG PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR THE DOCUMENT. THE PPD SAID THAT IT WAS "SIGN OF HOPE" AND THE PS CALLED IT "AN EVENT OF FIRST IMPORTANCE IN THE LIFE OF THE NATION."

5. COMMENT: THE MODERATES' STRATEGY NOW APPEARS TO BE TO PICK UP OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FROM THE MILITARY AND THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PARTIES IN ORDER TO FORCE A SHOWDOWN WITH GONCALVES AND HIS COMMUNIST SUPPORTERS. WE EXPECT CONFRONTATION TO BE WORKED OUT IN CHARACTERISTICALLY PORTUGUESE NON-VIOLENT FASHION. TIMING OF THIS MOVE WILL DEPEND ON SPEED WITH WHICH THE MODERATES CAN LINE UP SUPPORT AND ON WHETHER COPCON COMMANDER OTELO WILL COMMIT HIMSELF AND COPCON PUBLICALLY TO THE MODERATES. AT PRESENT PACE, THIS PROCESS WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, DOCUMENTS, VOTING, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 AUG 1975  
**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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